Newark Museum - History - to 1937

Newark Art Museum.

M. L. G. 364

~~History of~~ Extracts from minutes of Board of Trustees leading up to its organization from the appointment of a fine arts commission.

1898, Jan. 13. The Board of Trustees voted to empower the library committee to select not less than two men, residents of Newark, familiar with art, to act with the committee when needed.

1898, Feb. 9. It was reported to the Board that Hon. Franklin Murphy, Rt. Rev. Monsignor Geo. H. Doane and Frank Fowler had been appointed to assist the Library Committee in art matters, and that they had accepted. The committee asked authority to increase the commission to five if found advisable.

1898, Mar. 3. Arrangements made for free lecture by Mr. Frederick Keppel; ~~and~~ gift ~~of~~ from Dr. Coles, "The last supper", accepted.

1899, Mar. 2. Gift of bust of Washington accepted from Dr. Coles.

1899, June1. The matter of advisability of names on the facade of the new building referred to the art commission.

1899, June29. Art Commission recommended the acceptance of the statue of Ruth, presented by Rev. Daniel H. Martin and wife.

1899, Oct. 5, Gift of portrait of Dr. John S. Darcy by the Publishers of the Sunday Call, referred to the Art Commission for approval. Accepted Nov. 2

1899, Nov. 2. ~~Gift accepted~~. Commission recommended that authors' names be omitted from the facade of the new building.

1900, Dec. 6. Art Commission recommended ~~to~~ accepting the loan of pictures for the walls of the new building from Chas. Scribner's Sons. Loan accepted.

Voted to ask the art commission for recommendations of designs and prices for stone over front entrance.

1901, July. 23, Offer of Dr. Coles to present a framed picture for the Children's Room referred to the Art Commission.

Mr. Frank Fowler removed from New jersey and library committee authorized to select some person to take his place.

1902, June11. Hon. John F. Dryden accepted place on art commission.

1903, Nov. 14, Monsignor Doane presented through the library committee a copy of a letter which he was sending to a few friends asking them to provide the amount necessary to complete the stone over the library door and to put an electric installation in the art gallery. He recommended that the design for the stone be asked ~~for~~ of Mr. John Flanagan.

1902, Dec. 4. Voted that the work on the panel be done under the supervision of the art commission.

1903. Jan.8. Reported that the reflectors had been put into the Assembly Room.

1903, Feb. 5. Fine Arts Commission authorized to proceed in the matter of having a loan exhibition of paintings from private Newark galleries. Opened Friday, February 27th.

1903, July 17, Fine Arts Commission reported favorably on the acceptance of a bronze bust of Edison from Judge Howard W. Hayes.

1904, Jan. 8. Gift from Dr. Coles of two bronze busts, Apollo Belvidere and Augustus Caesar, accepted on recommendation of the Art. Commission.

1904, Mar. 11, Exhibition of engravings of Monsignor Doane proposed. Mar. 5. Exhibition of paintings lent by Newark citizens opened.

1904, Apr. 7. Letter received from Board of Education dated Mar. 26 suggesting that the Disbrow collection of geological specimens now in the High School be placed in the library building under certain conditions.

1904, Apr. 21. Letter sent to Board of Education making certain alterations in the arrangements for accepting the Disbrow collection.

1904, Nov. 3. Reported to the board that the exhibition cases belonging to the Bd. of Educ. had been moved to the library from the High School; that Dr. Disbrow had installed in them his collection of

of minerals. The librarian was authorized to purchase $100 worth of flat cases for additional specimens.

1905, Jan. 3. The death of Monsignor Doane reported to the Board and resolutions adopted.

1905, Feb. 2. Names of Mr. J. Wm. Clark, Lewis Lampman and G. Wisner Thorne suggested to take Monsignor Doane's place.

1905, Mar. 16. Gift of painting from Louis Bamberger accepted.

1905, March 18 Loan exhbition of American paintings opened ~~March 18.~~

1905, Apr. 13 Voted to ask J.Wm. Clark to serve on the Commission.

Gift of money to purchase casts received from Mr. Jas. S. Higbie.

1905. Je. 8. Committee appointed to consider with the Fine Arts Commission the offer of Mrs. Howard W. Hayes of a collection of books, rugs, paintings, pottery, etc. Sept. 20. Reported that the Hayes collection was in the building.

1905, Nov. 10 Replicas of three bronze busts reported purchased.

1906, Jan. 4. Report of a gift from a friend of the library of a collection of prints and implements illustrating the several processes of reproducing pictures, etching, engraving, etc.

Voted that there be appointed two standing committees, one on art and one on science.

1906, Feb. 8. ~~Last~~ Vote of Jan. 4 rescinded, and voted that a standing committee be appointed on art and science collections, to consist of three members. Committee appointed as follows: Messrs Mercer, Howell & Ward.

1906, Mar. 1. Gift from Dr. Coles of a bronze head of Venus referred to the Fine Arts Commisson.

1906, Apr. 14. Committee on A. & S. C. reported the printing of a pamphlet descriptive of the paintings, bronzes and other objects of interest in the library and recommended that copies be sent to a number of Newark citizens.

The committee reported that the Hayes collection was installed am

that a law had been passed allowing the acceptance of the gift by the library.

Bust of Homer offered by Dr. Coles.

Committee also reported the suggested formation of an art club in Newark, the purpose of which shall be to purchase or acquire by gift, paintings, bronzes and other works of art, to be placed at first in the library and later in Newark's public Art Museum. The treasurer of the library to be the treasurer of the proposed organization. The selection of objects for purchase to be in the hands of a committee of not more than three members, the personnel of which is approved by the board.

1906, May 3. Committee on spell out A. & S. C. reported the receipt of the bronze bust of Venus from Dr. Coles.

The Committee reported the opening of the Exhibition of American water colors on May 5.

Committee suggested that the board offer to house a Doane art collection if the same is established by the Doane Memorial Committee adding to the collection $100 worth of material each year and to present it at the proper time to the Newark public art museum. Referred to the Com. spell out on A. & S. C.

1906, June 12. spell out Com on A. & S.C. presented a letter from a friend of the library enclosing check for $400 for the purchase of material illustrative of processes of reproducing pictures.

Committee reported Hayes collection opened June 8. Proposed deed of gift of Hayes collection referred to the committee on spell out A. &. S.C.

1906, July 17. Bacher's negative processes of etching complete.

1907, Jan. 8. Gift of bronze bust of Homer accepted from Dr. Coles.

Collection of copper plates and wood engravings by F. S. King, ordered purchased.

1907, Mar. 7. Committee on spell out A. &. S.C. presented a letter from Sir Caspar Purdon Clarke in which he recommended the non-acceptance of the

Hayes collection under the conditions.

Committee also reported that Mr. Catalina Lambert of Paterson will lend his paintings for an exhibition.

Mr. Jenkinson suggested a plan for the formation of an art museum in the city, maintained in part at least by a city appropriation, and if it seemed wise provide for the Hayes collection, making it the foundation of an Art Museum for Newark. This met with general approval.

1907, June 20. It was voted that the committee on spelled out A. & S.C. form, with the art commission, an organization for the consideration of art matters that may come before the board for settlement.

1907, July 18. Voted that Mr. Howell be authorized to make the proper arrangements for the future of the Disbrow collection, assuring the board that the collection shall be permanent and shall become, in view of the library's contributions toward its installation and care, ultimately its property.

1907, Nov. 13. Voted to purchase the balance of Mr. F. S. King's engravings.

1907, Dec. 19. Secretary instructed to write to Mrs. Pennington to remove the Hayes collection by January 18.

Committee on spelled out A. & S.C. empowered to add two more names to the art commission.

1908, Jan. 23. Committee on spelled out A. & S.C. reported that Mrs. Pennington had removed her collection from the library.

Mr. Louis Bamberger added to the Art Commission.

? Mr. ~~Horace~~ Wallace Scudder & Mr. Jas. S. Higbie.

1908, Feb. 14. Meeting of the Art Commission. It was suggested that steps be taken for the establishment of an art museum for Newark.

One standing case ordered of the Library Bureau.

1908. Apr. 1. Meeting. Dr. Disbrow, V.C. Howell & Dr. Mercer. Agreement entered into between Dr. Wm. S. Disbrow and the trustees of the free public Library to maintain the Newark Public Library Science

Museum.

1908. Jan. 4. Loan of frames containing textiles, etc. from Cooper Union Museum.

1908, Nov. 11. Rockwell Loan Collection opened. Private view being given on Nov. 10.

1909, Jan. 14. Committee on A. & S.C. reported that Sir Purdon Clarke had visited Newark, inspected the Rockwell collection, and approved of its purchase by the city as a foundation of an Art Museum; at a meeting of the Art Commission it was voted that the City be asked to purchase the collection.

Exhibitions held under the auspices of the

Fine Arts Commission.

Paintings lent by citizens of Newark, Feb. 27 to Mar. 12, 1903.

Decorative pictures, Nov. 1903.

Paintings lent by citizens of Newark, Mar. 5 to 19, 1904.

Prints collected by Rt. Rev. Monsignor Doane, Apr. 16 to May 2, 1904

Japanese prints, Mar. 4 - 15, 1905

Paintings lent by American artists, Mar. 18 to Apr. 2, 1905

Water Colors lent by American artists, May 5 to 19, 1906

Catalog, Howard W. Hayes collection, 1906

" Paintings, bronzes, etc.,1906

Paintings lent by C. Lambert of Paterson and the citizens of Newark,
Mar. 24, Apr. 7, 1907.

~~N.J. Chapter Architect~~

New Jersey Chapter, American Institute of Architects, 1909

Japanese Art Objects lent by George
S. Rockwell, Nov. 10, Dec. 11, Dec 29-31, 1909.

By W.B. Monnington, ?
of Library Staff

See also Annual Reports of Public Library covering these years